

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Albania

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. It has been reported that, during the first ten-day period of September, 15 Albanians attempted to escape from Durres by motorboat. They were reportedly detected by the sea patrol and all were captured and imprisoned at Durres. 50X1-HUM

2. During the first ten days of September 1949, an armed Nationalist band allegedly attacked and blew up two loaded Government vehicles on the road between Tirana and Peshkop. The passengers (sic) on these vehicles were released.

3. In the region near Kukës and Peshkop the inhabitants have reportedly been removed because so many have escaped into Yugoslavia. Nationalist warfare has been waged in this region against the DMP; when the Nationalists are chased, they reportedly enter Yugoslav territory and re-enter Albania at some other point. The Albanian Nationalists from the northern section of Albania are said to receive arms and food from Tito.

4. There is a rumor among the people of the region of Kavaje that there is a Nationalist band of some 40 or 50 men in that region under the leadership of Ramit Matiani. this rumor was circulated by the bands of Alush Leshanaku and Muri Plaka (who entered Albania) allegedly doing so to ensure the aid of the people of this region, who have a high regard for Matiani. 50X1-HUM

5. Vlasov, a Soviet engineer and a member of the Soviet Mission at Tirana reportedly was the director of construction for the 7-kilometer railroad line from Keshar to the industrial zone of Tirana. In this industrial zone they are allegedly building a textile mill which it is anticipated will produce 20,000,000 meters of cloth.

6. Like the other railroad lines (Durres-Peqin-Elbasan; and Durres-Tirana), the line from Keshar to the industrial zone of Tirana was built by the "Volunteer Workers of the Albanian Youth". The total number of "volunteers" was 1923 young men and women. A large number of these "volunteers" contracted tuberculosis because of the bad living condition and the small rations they received.

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7. In addition to the Soviet Mission at Tirana, there are said to be others at Shkoder, Elbasan, Korce, and Gjinokaster.

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